WC-05-187

SWIDLER BERLING

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NPR 25 7005

April 25, 2005

VIA SAME DAY COURIER

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Wireline Competition Bureau – CPD – 214 Appls. P.O. Box 358145

Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5145

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MULLIFICE

Re:

Application of Universal Access, Inc. and Vanco Direct USA, LLC for Section 214 Authority to Transfer Assets of an Authorized Domestic Carrier

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Universal Access, Inc. ("Debtor") and Vanco Direct USA, LLC ("Vanco," together with Debtor, the "Applicants"), hereby wish to file their Application for Consent to Transfer Control of the Domestic 214 Authority of Debtor to Vanco.

Enclosed please find an original and six (6) copies of the Section 214 Application. Also enclosed is a completed Fee Remittance Form 159 and a check in the amount of \$895.00 to cover the Commission's filing fees. Please direct any questions regarding this filing to the undersigned.

Respectfully, submitted,

Russell M. Blau Douglas D. Orvis II

Counsel for Applicants

Enclosure

9216704v1

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION REMITTANCE ADVICE

Approved by OMB 3060-0589 Page . 1__ o___

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(5) STREET ADDRESS LINE NO. 2						
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Approved by OMB 3060-0589

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Federal Communications Commission WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of

Universal Access, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession and Vanco Direct USA, LLC

Application Pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934 and Section 63.04 of the Commission's Rules for Consent to Transfer Control of the Domestic 214 Authority of Universal Access, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession, to Vanco Direct USA, LLC

File No.

To: The Commission

Attention: Wireline Competition Bureau

APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO TRANSFER CONTROL
OF THE DOMESTIC 214 AUTHORITY OF UNIVERSAL ACCESS, INC.,
DEBTOR-IN-POSSESSION, TO VANCO DIRECT USA, LLC

I. Introduction

A. Summary of Transaction

Pursuant to section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and sections 63.01 through 63.04 of the Commission's Rules, Universal Access, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession ("UAI"), by its attorneys, hereby seek consent to transfer the control of UAI's domestic authorization to Vanco Direct USA, LLC ("Vanco") (collectively, "Applicants"). UAI and Vanco hold blanket authority to provide domestic telecommunications services.

Applicants request approval of the transfer of control pursuant to an Asset Purchase Agreement (the "Agreement"). Under the Agreement, Vanco will acquire substantially all of the assets of UAI, including but not limited to UAI's customer accounts, subject to the approval of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division (the "Court") in the matter entitled In Re: Universal Access Global Holdings, Inc., et al., Case No. 04 B 28747 (Jointly Administered) (the "Acquisition"). A copy of the Order of the Bankruptcy Court authorizing the sale will be filed with the Commission upon issuance.

B. Application Eligible for Streamlined Processing

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is eligible for streamlined processing pursuant to Section 63.03 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.03. This Application is eligible for streamlined processing pursuant to Section 63.03(b)(2)(i) because, immediately following the transaction, Vanco will hold less than a ten percent (10%) share of the interstate, interexchange market; (2) Vanco will provide local exchange service, if at all, only in areas served by dominant local exchange carriers (none of which are parties to the proposed Transaction; and (3) neither of the Applicants or their affiliates are dominant with respect to any service.

In support of this Application, Applicants provide the following information:

II. Description of the Applicants

A. Vanco

Vanco is a Delaware limited liability company with principal offices located at 1420 Kensington Road, Suite 103, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523.

B. UAI

UAI is a telecommunications carrier authorized to provide telecommunications services by the Federal Communications Commission and the public utility commissions of 46 states and the District of Columbia.

UAI provides telecommunications carriers and Internet service providers with dedicated transport circuits to meet bandwidth demand and cross-connects the networks of various telecommunications carriers. Universal Access, a Delaware corporation, also provides private line and interconnection services.

UAI is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Universal Access Global Holdings, Inc. ("UAXS"). UAXS is a publicly-traded Delaware corporation with principal offices in Chicago, Illinois.

III. Information Required by Section 63.04

(1) The name, address and telephone number of the transferor and transferee.

Transferor:

Universal Access, Inc., Debtor-in-Possession 200 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 1200 Chicago, Illinois 60606 (312) 660-1290

Transferee:

Vanco Direct USA, LLC 1420 Kensington Road, Suite 103 Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 (630) 218-5890

(2) The state of incorporation of transferor and transferee.

UAI is a Delaware corporation
Vanco is a Delaware limited liability company

Correspondence concerning this Application should be addressed (3) to:

> EllenAnn G. Sands Nowalsky, Bronston & Gothard, APLLC 3500 N. Causeway Boulevard, Suite 1442 Metairie, Louisiana 70002 (504) 832-1984 (Telephone) (504) 831-0892 (Facsimile) esands@nbglaw.com

and

Russell M. Blau Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, D.C. 20007 (202) 424-7705 (Telephone) (202) 424-7645 (Facsimile) rmblau@swidlaw.com

Information concerning the ten percent (10%) or greater share-(4) holders of Transferee:

Vanco Direct USA, LLC Shareholder Information

Name:

VNO Direct Limited

Address:

John Busch House 277 London Road

Isleworth TW 75AX

Citizenship:

United Kingdom corporation

Principal Business: Systems integration company

Percent Held:

100% owner

VNO Direct Limited Shareholder Information

Name:

Vanco Group Limited

Address:

John Busch House

277 London Road Isleworth TW 75AX

Citizenship:

United Kingdom corporation

Principal Business: Systems integration company

Percent Held:

100% owner

Vanco Group Limited Shareholder Information

Name:

Vanco PLC

Address:

John Busch House 277 London Road Isleworth TW 75AX

Citizenship:

United Kingdom corporation

Principal Business: Holding Company

Percent Held:

100% owner

Vanco PLC Shareholder Information

Vanco PLC is a publicly held UK Company with a majority of

shares currently held by:

Name:

Edward Allen Timpany

Address:

Hazeley House, Hazeley Heath

Hartley Wintney

Basinstoke, Hampshire

RG27 8LT

Citizenship:

United Kingdom

Principal Business: Officer of Vanco PLC and Manager

of Vanco Direct USA, LLC

Percent Held:

Mr. Timpany and trusts that he controls own more than 50% of the voting shares of Vanco PLC. No other individual or entity owns 10% or more of the voting

shares.

- (5) The Applicants certify that neither the Applicants nor any party to the Application is subject to a denial of Federal benefits that includes FCC benefits pursuant to section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862.
- Grant of the requested authority will approve consummation of an asset purchase whereby Vanco will acquire substantially all of UAI's assets, as defined in the Agreement. Since August 2004, UAXS, its wholly owned subsidiary UAI, and each of UAI's wholly owned domestic subsidiaries, have been operating under the protection of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division (the "Bankruptcy Court"). This Agreement is pending a pproval by the Bankruptcy Court. Vanco will provide service under blanket domestic Section 214 authority pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 63.01(a). Vanco also has an application for 214 International authority pending and will file a separate application to approve this transaction with the International Bureau.

Applicants respectfully request Commission approval for the transfer of control of UAI to Vanco.

- (7) Both Vanco and UAI are non-dominant carriers that provide interstate private line services throughout the United States.
- (8) This Application is appropriate for streamlined treatment based on Section 63.03 (b)(2)(i). The transaction would result in Vanco having a market share in the interstate, interexchange market of less than 10 percent and Vanco would provide competitive telephone exchange services exclusively in geographic areas served by a dominant local exchange carrier that is not a party to this transaction. Neither Vanco nor UAI is dominant with respect to any service.
- (9) The parties will file a separate application for assignment and consent to the transfer of control of UAI's 214 International authorization with the International Bureau of the FCC.
- (10) Although UAI is not facing imminent business failure, it is operating under Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, and the Applicants request that this application be approved as soon as possible so that UAI's reorganization can be consummated without undue delay.
- (11) Not applicable.
- (12) Grant of the instant application will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Critical to the Acquisition is the need to ensure the continuation of high quality, uninterrupted service to all customers. The Acquisition will also serve to create a heightened level of operating efficiency which generally will serve to enhance the overall capacity of Vanco to compete in the marketplace and to provide telecommunications services for a greater number of consumers at competitive rates.

V. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

No new construction is involved, and grant of the instant application would not constitute a "major" environmental action pursuant to Section 1.1305 of the Commission's Rules.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants respectfully request that the Commission consent to the Acquisition and the transfer of control to Vanco of UAI and its domestic telecommunications operations.

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EllenAnn G. Sands

Nowalsky, Bronston & Gothard

A Professional Limited Liability Company

3500 N. Causeway Boulevard

Suite 1442

Metairie, Louisiana 70002 Telephone: (504) 832-1984

Counsel for Vanco Direct USA, LLC

Russell M. Blau

Swidler Berlin LLP

3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20007

Telephone: (202) 424-7835

Fax: (202) 295-8478

Counsel for Universal Access, Inc.,

Debtor-in-Possession

STATE OF ILLINOIS

COUNTY OF DU PAGE

VERIFICATION

I. <u>BRIAN REGISTE</u>, am the <u>FINANCIAL CONTROLLER</u> of Vanco Direct USA, LLC, and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. The statements made in the foregoing Application are true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters which are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

Name: Brian Registe
Title: Financial Controller

Sworn to and subscribed before me, Notary Public, in and for the State and County named above, this A day of April, 2005.

My commission expires:

1-31-2006

"OFFICIAL SEAL" ELIZABETH P. GISBONS

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 1/31/2006

STATE OF ILLINOIS

COUNTY OF COOK

VERIFICATION

I, Richard L. Monto, am the Chief Legal Officer of Universal Access, Inc., and am authorized to make this verification on its behalf. The statements made in the foregoing Application are true of my own knowledge, except as to those matters which are therein stated on information and belief, and as to those matters I believe them to be true.

> Name: Richard L. Monto Title: Chief Legal Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me, Notary Public, in and for the State and County named above, this 21st day of April, 2005.

Hamusa a. Bull.

Notary Public

My commission expires: OH/23/2005.

PAMELA A BUCHANAN

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:04/23/06